



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

August 21, 2019

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
U.S. House of Representatives
2134 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman DeFazio:

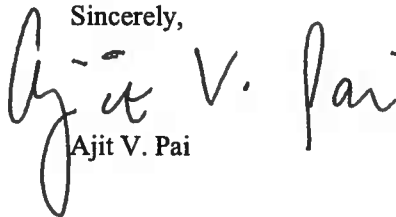
Thank you for your most recent letter concerning the Commission's radiofrequency exposure rules. As you may be aware, I recently circulated a draft among my fellow FCC Commissioners that would maintain our existing exposure limits. This came after over six years of public input and review, including close consultation on radiofrequency limits with the expert agencies on these issues—namely, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and other health agencies. In particular, the FDA's Director of the Center for Devices and Radiological Health has specifically weighed in on this matter, stating that "[t]he available scientific evidence to date does not support adverse health effects in humans due to exposures at or under the current limits" and that "[n]o changes to the current standards are warranted at this time."

Based on counsel of these expert health agencies, as well as the work of the Commission's career staff, I am satisfied that the United States' radiofrequency exposure limits for handheld devices are safe for consumers. Indeed, our analysis suggests that they are already among the most stringent in the world.

The draft order also includes other measures designed to promote the effectiveness of these limits, as well as greater transparency into their application. For example, it seeks to establish a uniform set of guidelines for ensuring compliance with the exposure limits regardless of the service or technology, replacing the Commission's current inconsistent patchwork of service-specific rules. In addition, it proposes rules formalizing the existing methods of determining compliance with the RF exposure standard for high-frequency devices.

I appreciate your ongoing interest in this issue and look forward to sharing the draft with you when it becomes publicly available. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai